

## **ZOO KEEPER**

### *Class Definition*

Under supervision, feeds and cares for exhibit animals; cleans and performs maintenance work on zoo buildings and grounds.

### *Distinguishing Characteristics*

Zoo Keeper is the journey level class in the Zoo Keeper series. Incumbents feed, care for, and perform maintenance work necessary for the health and well-being of exhibit animals. This class is distinguished from Senior Zoo Keeper in that the latter is the advanced working/lead class in the Zoo Keeper series.

### *Typical Tasks*

(This list is neither inclusive nor exclusive. Consequently, this information may not reflect Essential Functions for this class.)

Prepares feed and feeds animals at designated times; cuts meat and vegetables, and cleans fish for feeding to animals; sees that animals have sufficient water.

Checks animals for signs of illness or disorder; reports irregularities to supervisor and/or veterinarian.

Maintains feeding, health, and welfare records on exhibit animals.

Cleans and disinfects cages, corrals, stalls, and pools; maintains cleanliness throughout the day.

Answers questions from the public pertaining to the zoo, animals and related matters.

Watches for, and reports any vandalism or mistreatment of animals.

Crates and moves animals as directed.

Operates equipment necessary for the maintenance of zoo grounds.

May act as a lead worker in the absence of a Senior Zoo Keeper and may assist with the training of new employees and volunteers.

Performs related duties as required.

### *Knowledge, Abilities, and Skills*

Knowledge of the temperament, characteristics, behavioral and breeding habits, and custodial care of undomesticated and domesticated animals.

Knowledge of the dietary needs of zoo animals.

Knowledge of the specific custodial, feeding, and minor veterinary care requirements of assigned animals.

Ability to work with wild, delicate, and dangerous animals.

Ability to deal courteously and tactfully with the public and other employees.

Skill in caring for and handling undomesticated and potentially dangerous animals.

*Minimum Qualifications*

One year of experience in the care, handling, and feeding of animals in a zoo setting. Twelve units of accredited college level course work in animal science, zoology, biology, wildlife management, or related field may be substituted for six months of the required experience.

*Special Requirement*

Possession of valid California Driver's License may be required at time of appointment.

Recruitment may be limited to a specific animal expertise, such as elephants, birds, amphibians or reptiles, as required by operational needs.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Director of Administrative Services

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_